

FISCAL UPDATE News Article

Fiscal Services Division
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DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS REPORT ON RESIDENTIAL FACILITY ESCAPES

Report. The Department of Corrections (DOC) published a report, Residential Facility Escapes, in August 2015. This research report shows that escapes from residential facilities increased between calendar year (CY) 2001 through 2014. Commonly, offenders failed to return to the facility after an authorized leave, such as for work or treatment. Offenders on probation or work release were more likely to escape than offenders on another status, such as the Operating While Intoxicated (OWI) continuum. While the overall increase in escapes appears high at approximately 24.7%, residential facility capacity increased by approximately 6.0% over this reporting period. The number of offenders in the facilities also increased over the last 14 years.

Escape Rates. The report includes a discussion of escape rates on an annual basis. While escape from residential facilities increased from CY 2001 through CY 2014, the escape rates show no statistically significant change. The report indicates that providing Cognitive Behavioral Therapy to offenders is likely to reduce their tendency to escape from residential facility placement.

More Information. Additional research reports are available on the DOC website at: http://www.doc.state.ia.us/. Click on Research and then select from the available documents.

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